



Propane Watch

October 18, 2000

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

- U.S. inventories of propane continued higher since the last report period two weeks ago, up 1.7 million barrels (MMB) to an estimated 63.2 MMB as of week ending October 13, 2000. Regional inventories continued mixed last week with Midwest and Gulf Coast regions showing gains of 0.4 MMB and 1.5 MMB, respectively, while inventories in the East Coast region reported a nearly 0.3 MMB loss during this same period. Regional inventories remain at the lower limit of the normal range in the East Coast, while inventories in the Gulf Coast are just above the upper limit of the normal range. Inventories in the Midwest remain below the normal range.
- Propane prices were up at both the wholesale and retail levels for the past week. The overall residential average price on October 16, 2000, was 128.5 cents per gallon, a 1.1-cent increase over the October 9 revised level of 127.4 cents per gallon. The wholesale market reflected a greater upturn, moving from 69.8 to 73.0 cents per gallon for the period, an increase of 3.2 cents. Compared to last year's levels, residential rose 31.8 cents from 96.7 cents per gallon on October 18, 1999, while wholesale jumped 22.5 cents from its year-ago level of 50.5 cents per gallon.

Propane Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I, II, and III (Thousand Barrels)

Districts	September 1999	October 1999	Week Ending				
			NA	NA	NA	10/13/00	10/15/99
East Coast (PADD I)	5,768	5,638	NA	NA	NA	^E 4,905	5,899
Midwest (PADD II)	26,350	26,194	NA	NA	NA	^E 23,658	27,118
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	24,604	21,861	NA	NA	NA	^E 32,412	23,767
Total (PADD I-III)	56,722	53,693	NA	NA	NA	^E 60,975	56,784
U.S. Total	59,440	56,554	NA	NA	NA	^E 63,231	58,885

E=Estimated data.

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Monthly Petroleum Supply Reporting System and Form EIA-807, "Propane Telephone Survey."

Propane Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I and II (Cents per Gallon)

District	Wholesale					Residential				
	NA	10/02/00	10/09/00	10/16/00	10/18/99	NA	10/02/00	10/09/00	10/16/00	10/18/99
East Coast (PADD I)	NA	72.5	71.9	76.3	54.7	NA	143.8	143.9	145.3	114.6
New England (PADD IX)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	146.8	^R 146.5	147.5	117.4
Central Atlantic (PADD IY)	NA	73.5	72.9	77.0	55.6	NA	145.7	146.0	147.3	116.4
Lower Atlantic (PADD IZ)	NA	71.2	70.6	75.6	53.6	NA	136.5	^R 136.6	138.5	107.6
Midwest (PADD II)	NA	72.3	69.1	71.8	49.0	NA	114.4	114.8	115.7	83.4
Average	NA	72.3	69.8	73.0	50.5	NA	127.2	^R 127.4	128.5	96.7

NA=Not Available.

R=Revised.

Source: Wholesale propane prices are based on Oil Price Information Service. Residential propane prices are available from data supplied by 23 State Energy Offices from October through March on a semi-monthly basis.

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